

CLAIMS

1. A memory card connector (34), comprising:  
an insulative housing (36) having a terminal-mounting section (36a) which mounts a  
5 plurality of conductive terminals (44) having contact portions (44a) for engaging appropriate  
contacts on a memory card (60) and which at least in part defines a card-receiving cavity (40)  
for receiving the memory card;  
a card eject mechanism (46) including a slider (50) movably mounted on the housing  
and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith into and out of the cavity  
10 between an inserted connection position and a withdrawal position, and an ejection spring  
(56) to bias the slider and memory card in an ejection direction toward said withdrawal  
position; and  
a catch means (70) for catching the memory card in its movement in said ejection  
direction and preventing the memory card from moving under inertia beyond said withdrawal  
15 position.
2. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said cavity (40) has a front  
insertion opening (42), and the catch means (70) is located near the opening.
- 20 3. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said catch means comprise a  
catch member (70) on the connector engageable with a recess (60d) in the memory card (60).
4. The memory card connector of claim 3 wherein catch member comprises a  
cantilevered leaf spring (70).  
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5. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said terminal-mounting  
section (36a) of the housing (36) is a rear section and including at least one side wall section  
(36b) of the housing extending forwardly from one end of the rear section, said card eject  
mechanism (46) and said catch means (70) being on said side wall section.
- 30 6. The memory card connector of claim 5 wherein catch member comprises a  
cantilevered leaf spring (70).

7. The memory card connector of claim 1, including a metal shell (38) mounted on the housing (36) and combining therewith to define said cavity (40) having a front insertion opening (42) to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card (60) into and out of the connector, said catch means being on the metal shell.

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8. The memory card connector of claim 7 wherein said catch means (70) is located near the front insertion opening (42) of the cavity (40).

9. The memory card connector of claim 8 wherein said catch means (70) is  
10 integral with the metal shell (38).

10. The memory card connector of claim 9 wherein said shell (38) is stamped and formed from sheet metal material and the catch means (70) is stamped and formed therefrom.

11. The memory card connector of claim 10 wherein said catch means comprise a  
15 catch member (70) integral with the metal shell (38) engageable with a recess (60d) in the memory card (60).

12. The memory card connector of claim 11 wherein catch member comprises a  
20 cantilevered leaf spring (70).

13. The memory card connector of claim 10 wherein said metal shell (38) includes a top wall (38a) and at least one side wall (38b), and the catch means (70) is stamped and formed from the top wall of the shell.

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14. The memory card connector of claim 13 wherein said catch means comprises a cantilevered spring (70).

15. A memory card connector (34), comprising:  
30 an insulative housing (36) having a terminal-mounting section (36a) and at least one side wall section (36b) extending forwardly from one end of the rear section which mounts a plurality of terminals (44) having contact portions (44a) for engaging appropriate contacts on

a memory card (60);

a metal shell (38) mounted on the housing and combining therewith to define a card-receiving cavity (40) having a front insertion opening (42) to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card into and out of the connector between an inserted connection position

5 and a withdrawal position;

a card eject mechanism (46) including a slider (50) movably mounted on the side wall section of the housing and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith, and an ejection spring (56) to bias the slider and memory card in an ejection direction toward said withdrawal position; and

10 a catch means (70) integral with the metal shell (38) for catching the memory card in its movement in said ejection direction and preventing the memory card from moving under inertia beyond said withdrawal position.

16. The memory card connector of claim 15 wherein said catch means (70) is  
15 located near the front insertion opening (42) of the cavity (40).

17. The memory card connector of claim 15 wherein said catch means is integral with the metal shell.

20 18. The memory card connector of claim 17 wherein said shell (38) is stamped and formed from sheet metal material and the catch means (70) is stamped and formed therefrom.

19. The memory card connector of claim 18 wherein said catch means comprise a  
25 catch member (70) integral with the metal shell (38) engageable with a recess (60d) in the memory card (60).

20. The memory card connector of claim 19 wherein catch member comprises a cantilevered leaf spring (70).

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21. The memory card connector of claim 18 wherein said metal shell (38) includes a top wall (38a) and at least one side wall (38b), and the catch means (70) is stamped and

formed from the top wall of the shell.

22. The memory card connector of claim 21 wherein said catch means comprises a cantilevered spring (70).

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23. A memory card connector (34), comprising:

an insulative housing (36) having a terminal-mounting section (36a) which mounts a plurality of conductive terminals (44) having contact portions (44a) for engaging appropriate contacts on a memory card (60) and which at least in part defines a card-receiving cavity (40) for receiving the memory card;

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a card eject member (50) movably mounted on the housing and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith into and out of the cavity between an inserted connection position and a withdrawal position, and an ejection spring (56) to bias the card eject member and memory card in an ejection direction toward said withdrawal position; and

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a catch means (70) for catching the memory card in its movement in said ejection direction and preventing the memory card from moving under inertia beyond said withdrawal position.

24. The memory card connector of claim 23 wherein said catch means comprise a catch member (70) on the connector engageable with a recess (60d) in the memory card (60).

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25. The memory card connector of claim 24 wherein catch member comprises a cantilevered leaf spring (70).

26. The memory card connector of claim 23, including a metal shell (38) mounted on the housing (36) and combining therewith to define said cavity (40) having a front insertion opening (42) to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card (60) into and out of the connector, said catch means being on the metal shell.

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27. The memory card connector of claim 26 wherein said shell (38) is stamped and formed from sheet metal material and the catch means (70) is stamped and formed therefrom.

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28. The memory card connector of claim 27 wherein said metal shell (38) includes a top wall (38a) and at least one side wall (38b), and the catch means (70) is stamped and formed from the top wall of the shell.